

35

A
WARNING-PEICE
TO ALL
HIS MAIESTIES
SUBJECTS OF
ENGLAND:

BEING

The Lamentable Complaint of
them that were brought Prisoners
from Cyrencester; being eleven hun-
dred sixty and odde, told in the view
of all, for their misguided

Z E A L E.

Containing the Motives by which
they have been drawn into Rebellion
against their Lawfull

K I N G.

Desired by them to be Printed for a
Warning to their Brethren.



Printed in the Yeare

1 6 4 2.

THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF LONDON

FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE CITY
TO THE PRESENT TIME



Containing the
most curious and
valuable
collections
of
manuscripts
and
books
in
Europe

Printed in the Year
1642



A

Warning-Peice to all His *Majesties*
Subjects of *England*: being the Lamentable
Complaint of them that were brought prisoners
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& odd; told in the veiw of all, for their misguided
Zeal, Containing the Motives by which they have
been drawne into Rebellion against their Lawfull
KING, and by them desired to be Printed for
a warning to their Brethren.

GENTLEMEN,



OV are here come to behold a miserable
spectacle of poore Injur'd people, by the
lying lips of them, to whose mischievous
Enchantments we have lent too much an
Eare. Had we been permitted to have
Quietly followed our Callings (with out
being blowne upon by the breath of Sedi-
tion, by those men you have in your Custo-
dy) we had not had Cause now to Com-
plaine, or to deplore our most unhappy fortune. we speak not
this to lessen our fault, we are sufficiently Convinced by the
haynousnesse of it: now that our sufferings, together with our
Gentle usage (considering our offence) hath lent us other Eyes
then those which before we saw with, but to shew you and all
the world, with what Cunning Sophistrie we have been dealt
with,

with, and how loud the finnes of those (who would be still call'd Parliament men) doe call to heaven for vengeance, for this most unnaturall and Irreligious Warr, Meerly of their procurement. First then to give you an account of the beginning of our ill's, at that time, that our Most Gracious K I N G did give us the freedome of our voyces in the Election of our Parliament men, wee were told that Popery was favored, and now by all meanes we must chuse such men as were directly opposite to that Religion; had we rested there, we had done well, but alas! we did not only so, but our voyces being (by some appoynted for that purpose) either threatned or bought, wee chose such as were not knowne to us by any Vertue, but only that of Crofnesse to Superiours: hereupon the beginning of our Parliaments are for the most part better, and in the end declineth, whil'st our Suffrages are either aw'd or bought: which if it were forbidden, the Conclusion would be, our Sovereignes honour, and the Peoples good. Next, when as they thought they had sufficiently engaged us for their defence by this our Election, they did for a while sweeten us with good Lawes, for the taking away of all Monopolies, ship-Mony, and other greivances, which they obtain'd of our Gracious Sovereigne, who was more ready to consent, then they to desire them, who denyed them nothing had any relation to the Peoples ease, or satisfaction for passed wrongs. But now fearing least if things went on thus fairely, the sufferings of the People would be Imputed to them, (who were for the most part gainers by those Monopolies, the K I N G having nothing of the profit, but the Envy of suffering those decayd men to make their fortunes at the Charge of the peoples undoing) they began to Act a new part, making the K I N G s williagnesse to grant, an Argument that He could not deny, to this purpose Declarations are framed and sent us with all possible speed, by men continually Employed for that purpose, shewing us the large extent of the Priviledges of Parliament, and in one, how that if they did depose our most Pious K I N G, they did not swerve from their Duty: now you must think, that they might easily make us believe any thing, who knew nothing, nor ever considered how that there is no such thing as a Parliament, without the K I N G, nor no Act or Order

der of Validity to bind the subject without the KING's Consent. Nor was it to be imagined, that we, who for the most part were bred at the plough, should be able to discusse the Rights of a Scepter: yet so it was, you may imagine by what Right we were made Judges, as the frequency of these Declarations shew'd: but it was not indeed so much our satisfaction in poynt of Indgement, which they sought, as in will and affection, with our Persons and Estates to aid and assist them in all their Designs, how unlawfull soever. And now having, as they thought, with these Arts, and other Coynded Inventions (not like His Majesties new Coyne,

*Exurgat Deus, dissipentur inimici Religion. Protestantium,
Legum Anglia, Libertas. Parliamentorum.*



where He doth, by the greatest obligation that any Prince can invent, engage himself to Posterity inviolably to observe & maintain the true *Protestants Religion, the Laws of the Land, & the Priviledge of Parliaments*) but of strangely found letters of Papists, & strange assurances from beyond Seas, now of this Nation, then of that, which came to invade us by the Kings invitation: & having

weakened him; by the taking away of some of his friends, brought things into a pretty forwardnesse, it behooved them to satisfie the Conscience for the next great worke, which was a totall subversion of our so long enjoyed Peace, under so many famous Monarches, by overthrowing this so every where famous and flourishing Monarchy, which could not be effected, but (which God forbid) by the death of Him which now Reignes. Now have We Lecturers put upon us, who at first perswade us with many faire words the huge and unwearied endeavours of the Parliament for our *Goods*, and how they Contemne their Lives and Fortunes for Our sakes, to to perswade us, in Gratitude, not to doe lesse for them then they had done for us; and indeed, being Our servants Wee would, and ought to maintaine them in that which could with Loyalty be maintain'd, and the maintaining them farther hath brought Vs into this Condition you now see Vs; thus having surrounded Vs with all these cunning devices to entrapp us, who were apt enough (God knows) to be deceived, they led us a step higher; like the Divell when he tempted our Saviour; telling Vs, that if we would now stand to them in this urgent necessity, they would make Vs the happiest People in the world, and now these firebrands of sedition, our Lecturers, are to tell us in all their Sermons, or rather pratings, the happy condition of the low Countreys, and, so farre forth as they yet durst, give us to understand they meant to bring our Government to theirs: knowing we would never consider how slavishly they live, paying a great Customs or excise for every loafe of bread, and drop of drinke they have, nor that they themselves would never indure an other Common-wealth (in point of policy) to be so neare them; and it seemes that did not long please, whether they mistrusted their dislike, by their assisting us what they could with Armes and other things of much advantage to the King, and disadvantage to them; or whether it did check their particular designes, is not certaine. And now sayling of that designe, they beganne a new one: The King is pretended to be abused by ill Counsell, and must by our assistance be brought up to His Parliament, out of the hands of the Cavaliers, whom now we see with our eyes to be the Flower of the Parliament, Nobility, and Gentry of the Kingdome.

Armes

Armes must be levied in the feare of Cod; (as they tearme it) to side with the Divell, as we have cause to beleeve they meant it, and we must now endeavour to kill the King in defence of His Majesty, and at last after the Battle at *Edge-bill*, and the Murder of so many soules, & truth endeavouring a little more to discover her selfe, they begin like the Divell to thrust Vs into the last act of despaire, telling Vs 'tis now too late to goe backe, and that our sinne was like the sinne of *Cayne*, too great to be forgiven, and that we must now at the least defend our selves from *Prince Rupert's* Plundering, (for they were ashamed now to use the Kings name any longer) it being notoriously known His unparalleld mercy, I beseech God grant it hardens not many of them in mischief, that when at any time any of Vs were taken, he did well intreate us, and such as would serve him might, the rest only with an Oath to be Loyall, and a short admonition for the time to come not to be misled for their ruine, were dismissed, who, We dread to speake it, did afterwards serve at *Braine-ford* against him, having as it seems been absolvd by some Ministers from their Oath by the most unheard of Jesuiticall wickednesse that any age can ever mention. And what befell us in this (Gentlemen) you now see, whereas we might peaceably, with our Wives and Children, have enjoy'd these blessings of Goods, that God by our Industry had bettowed on us, by humbly submitting our selves, as was most just, to His Majesties Government, abused by their damnable Flattery and Lyes, never hearing nor suffer'd to know His Majesties generall Pardon, put our selves upon our defence, and it hath hapned unto us according to our deservings, and the Iustnesse of our Cause, having with the losse only of a few men on their side, scarce worth the Reckoning, lost, in little more then an houre, besides abundance of Our Lives, all that was neare and deare unto us, their being moreover as you see, Eleven hundred, threescore and odde of us Prisoners, enough if Our Cause had been (as was pretended) favoured by the Almighty, to have kept him knocking at Our Gates this twelvemonth, and yet have Wee received more mercy and favour from him also, (our offence considered) then we could any way expect from His Victorious Armes; being as mercifull now unto us Conquered, as Cruell when we would not hearken to his good advice.

Thus

Thus, Noble Gentlemen, have we made known our misfortunes, and greivous sufferings under the Treacherous Government of those we took for friends, not so much that we desire to procure your pittie unto us, who cannot suffer more then we Judge our selves worthy off; but that (if it be possible) our lamentable and most unfaigned Story, coming to the ears of our poore Brethren, who, enchanted by the same malice, are likely to undergoe the same misery, if a timely prevention happen not, may recall them from the same error; for we by a most certain experience find the cause to be nought, & followed with the Justice of Heaven.

Wherefore we adjure you, as you will answer it at the dreadful day of Iudgement, that you lay these things carefully to heart, which we out of the Anguish of our soules have delivered unto these Gentlemen, and doe desire it may come unto you to consider how high your offences runne, even to the resisting the Ordinance of God in the Sacred person of the King, and his Children, envolving the ruine of your selves, your wives and Children in these publique Calamities, & that never any sinne of this kind went unpunished, and God of his Mercy open all your Eyes.

F I N I S.

